

Message Text

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PAGE 01 KINSHA 02212 121525Z

ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EUR-12 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 EB-08 ACDA-07 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00

/069 W

-----121529Z 012868 /44

O 121340Z MAR 77

FM AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 2269

INFO SECDEF WASHDC

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L KINSHASA 2212

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MOPS, CG, AO, PFOR

SUBJ: OPERATION SHABA - POL SITUATION

REF: A. KINSHASA 2164, B. KINSHASA 2168, C. KINSHASA 2185

1. AS A RESULT OF CONVERSATIONS DURING THE MORNING OF 12 MAR WITH MOBIL REP DUBRULE, RESEARCH OF POL STOCK LEVELS IN KINSHASA AND SHABA REGION, THE FOLLOWING POL PICTURE EVOLVES.

2. KINSHASA AREA:

JET FUEL SITUATION CRITICAL. UNLESS GOVT DECISION TO ALLOCATE STOCKS IS MADE SOON THEY WILL RUN OUT IN 10-12 DAYS. SINCE JET FUEL (KEROSENE) IS USED BY THE POPULATION AS A COOKING FUEL, REDUCTION IN THIS AREA IS POLITICALLY DICEY. AIR ZAIRE AND FOREIGN AIRLINE OPERATIONS HAVE NOT BEEN REDUCED AS YET. THEY ARE STILL WORKING ON 60 PERCENT OF NORMAL REQUIREMENTS. DEBRULE ESTIMATES ANY FURTHER REDUCTIONS WILL RESULT IN A NUMBER OF FLIGHT CANCELLATIONS. FAZA CONSUMPTION HAS INCREASED BY 60 PERCENT SINCE START OF OPERATION SHABA. EARLIEST RESUPPLY IS EITHER FROM STARTUP OF REFINERY DUE TO CRUDE ARRIVAL PER REFTTEL A, OR FROM TANKERS DUE PER REFTTEL B AND C.

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PAGE 02 KINSHA 02212 121525Z

3. SHABA AREA:

SUPPLIES OF JET FUEL AND DIESEL FUEL ARE ZERO. GASOLINE 5-6 DAYS. IF LETTERS OF CREDIT ALREADY SUBMITTED HAVE BEEN APPROVED, DELIVERY FROM NDOLA REFINERY WILL COMMENCE IMMEDIATELY. IN THIS REGARD, SLOW TURN AROUND OF RAIL TANK CARS DUE TO ZAMBIAN INEFFICIENCY (ACCORDING TO DUBRULE) WILL IMPEDE RAPID RECOVERY. ENOUGH PRODUCT IS ON ORDER, BUT FUNDS NOT YET ALLOCATED, TO

PROVIDE 60 DAYS NORMAL OPERATION OF JET FUEL, 45 DAYS GASOLINE AND 180 DAYS DIESEL FUEL. SUGGESTED ACTION TO IMPROVE OVERALL SITUATION:

A. REQUEST ZAMBIAN GOVT GIVE PRIORITY TO SHABA BOUND RAIL CARS.

B. TASK EMBASSY LUSAKA TO ASSIST MOBIL REPS TO EXPEDITE MOVE OF RAIL CARS. DEBRUHLE IS PREPARED TO GO TO LUBUMBASHI TO ARRANGE THIS WITH MOBIL AND USG CONSULAR OFFICER.

C. STRAIN ON KINSHASA JET FUEL STOCK CAN BE REDUCED BY HAVING AIR ZAIRE AND FAZA TRANSPORTS REFUEL IN LUBUMBASHI WHEN JET FUEL BECOMES AVAILABLE. AUGMENTATION OF JET FUEL TO SUPPORT OPERATION SHABA APPEARS MORE FEASIBLE AT LUBUMBASHI DUE TO PROXIMITY TO REFINERY. DEBRUHLE ESTIMATES IMMEDIATE AUGMENTATION NEED FOR OPERATION SHABA WILL BE COVERED BY ABOUT ONE AND ONE HALF MILLION US DOLLARS.

5. CHIEF ZAMISH HAS SET UP MEETING BETWEEN DDN OFFICIALS AND DEBRUHLE FOR 1800 HOURS ZULU, 12 MAR, TO APPRISE GOZ OF COUNTRY-WIDE POL PICTURE AND, HOPEFULLY, GET GOZ DECISIONS ON PRIORITY OF ALLOCATIONS.

6. SEPTTEL, KINSHASA 2208, RECOMMENDS USG GUARANTEE TO MOBIL SO THAT ABOVE OPERATION CAN COMMENCE ASAP.

7. REQUEST REPLY BY 1800Z
WALKER

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 12-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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